

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT.
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE: N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

Volume XXXII. No. 103
AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE. Broadway, near Broome street.—THE LITTLE BARBON. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

NEW YORK THEATRE. Broadway, opposite New York Hotel.—THE LAST OF LYONS.

WOOD'S THEATRE. Broadway, opposite St. Nicholas Hotel.—CAMILLE. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

THEATRE FRANCAIS. Fourteenth street, near Sixth avenue.—LUCRECE BORGIA.

GERMAN STADT THEATRE. 45 and 47 Bowery.—L'ETRENAUD; OR, DAS LIEBESKIND KLEINER.

OLYMPIA THEATRE. Broadway.—THE ENCHANTMENT.

IRVING HALL. Irving place.—MR. J. M. PATTERSON'S MATINEE AT THREE O'CLOCK.

STEINWAY HALL. Fourteenth street.—PUBLIC READING OF THE FIDELITY SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, AT THREE O'CLOCK.

DODWORTH HALL, 68 Broadway.—PATERSON HART WILL FURNISH HIS MIRACLES.—J. B. BARNES AND HIS FAIR SINGING BIRD. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

SAN FRANCISCO MINISTERS. 58 Broadway, opposite the Metropolitan Hotel.—IN THREE ENTERTAINMENTS. FIRST, THE LITTLE BARBON. SECOND, THE LITTLE BARBON. THIRD, THE LITTLE BARBON. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

KELLY & SONS' MINISTERS. 75 Broadway, opposite the Metropolitan Hotel.—IN THREE ENTERTAINMENTS. FIRST, THE LITTLE BARBON. SECOND, THE LITTLE BARBON. THIRD, THE LITTLE BARBON. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

FIFTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE. Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth street.—GRACE & CHARITY'S MINISTERS. ENTERTAINMENT. BALLAD, BURLESQUE, AC.—THE BLACK CLOAK. A. B. BARNES AND HIS FAIR SINGING BIRD. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

TONY PATERSON'S OPERA HOUSE. 80 Bowery.—CONTO VOCALE. PATERSON HART WILL FURNISH HIS MIRACLES.—J. B. BARNES AND HIS FAIR SINGING BIRD. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

CHARLEY WHITE'S COMBINATION TROUPE. At Richmond Hall, 42 Avenue of Light and Lauchlin. ENTERTAINMENT.—LA STAGS COMIQUE. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

ROBERT'S OPERA HOUSE. Brooklyn.—ENTERTAINMENT. BALLAD AND BURLESQUE.—MR. K. K. K. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

THE RIVINGTON THEATRE. Union Hall, corner of Twenty-third street and Broadway, at R.—MOVING PICTURES OF THE FIDELITY SOCIETY. ENTERTAINMENT. BALLAD AND BURLESQUE.—MR. K. K. K. Matinee at 1 1/2 o'clock.

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recovered the value of ninety-six gallons of Rhine wine which he delivered to defendant, who alleged as his ground of objection that it was not equal to the sample on which he bought it. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed.

Another interesting salvage case has been argued before the United States District Court of Brooklyn, E. D., in which the Forty-third regiment (colored infantry) claim two thirds of the value of the steamer *Merrimack*, for having kept her afloat by constant bailing and excessive labor while on board of her as passengers from New Orleans to New York in 1865. The vessel sprung a leak, it appears, when about two hundred and ten miles from the mouth of the Mississippi, and required all the exertions of the crew, working by reliefs under the charge of their officers, to save her. The libellants claim that the case is unusual and does not come under the law disallowing salvage to passengers. The Court has reserved its decision.

The fine new steamship *City of Antwerp*, Captain Miroshoff, of the *Imperial* line, will leave pier 46 North river, at noon to-day, for Liverpool, touching at Queenstown. The mails will close at the Post Office at half-past ten A. M.

The National Steam Navigation Company's steamship *Virginia*, Captain Prowse, will sail at noon to-day, from pier 46 North river, for Queenstown and Liverpool.

The Anchor line steamship *Britannia*, Captain Laird, will sail from pier 20 North river, to-day, at twelve M., for Liverpool and Glasgow, calling at Londonbury to land passengers and mails.

The Hamburg American Packet Company's steamship *Germania*, Captain Schueren, will leave Hoboken at twelve M. to-day for Southampton and Hamburg. The mails for the German States via Hamburg will close at the Post Office at half-past ten o'clock A. M.

The New York and Havre line steamship *Arago*, Captain Gadden, will sail from pier 46 North river at noon to-day for Havre, calling at Falmouth, England. The mails for Great Britain and the Continent will close at half-past ten o'clock A. M.

The steamship *Fah Kee*, Captain Stirling, will leave pier 28 East river at three o'clock P. M. to-day for Santiago de Cuba via Nuevitas.

The fine steamship *General Meade*, Captain Sampson, of the *Cromwell* line, will sail from pier No. 9 North river at three o'clock P. M. to-day for New Orleans direct.

The Black Star line steamship *Ashtland*, Captain Norton, will leave pier 13 North river to-day, at three P. M. for New Orleans.

The sidewheel steamship *San Salvador*, Captain Nickerson, of the *Empire* line, will leave pier 13 North river at three P. M. to-day, for Savannah, connecting at that port with Florida steamers, and by rail to all points South and West.

The popular steamship *Sarasota*, Captain Crowell, of *Loary's* line, will sail from pier 14 East river, foot of Wall street, at three P. M. to-day, for Charleston, connecting with the steamer *Dictator* for the Florida ports.

The stock market was steady yesterday. Gold closed at 136 1/2.

Though few marked changes will be found in our commercial report this morning, yet the feeling in commercial circles yesterday was on the whole pretty buoyant. The comparative firmness in the gold market and the disturbed condition of political affairs in Europe were conceived to have a special significance, in view of which imported merchandise was held with more than ordinary firmness, holders, as a general thing, being anxious of higher prices in an early day, especially in case of actual hostilities in Continental Europe.

Domestic produce was generally firm; but with an exception, the market ruling heavy. On 'Change breadstuffs were steady. Corn and oats were lower. The hay product was generally quiet, but without decided change. Naval stores ruled firm though quiet. Petroleum was firm. Wool was more active, but the market continued heavy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the United States Senate yesterday the resolution of Massachusetts ratifying the proposed amendment to the constitution was presented. The question of a final adjournment on Tuesday next was taken up and debated for an hour, and the Senate then went into executive session, when several minor appointments were confirmed or rejected.

The Mississippi Injunction case came up before the Supreme Court at Washington yesterday, on the motion to file the bill. Attorney General Stanbery made a lengthy argument in opposition to the motion on the part of the United States, and Robert J. Walker spoke in support on the part of the petitioners. Charles O'Connor moved for leave to file the bill of a similar character in the Georgia case, and the Court agreed to take the matter under advisement.

Secretary Seward has issued a circular letter to the Consuls, agents and Ministers of the United States stationed at ports likely to be visited by General Sherman's expedition to the Holy Land, commending the General and his party to their consideration, and intimating that any attention paid to him by foreign states will be gratefully appreciated by the government. The Secretary of the Navy has given orders to supply the Quaker City—the vessel in which the party sails—with artillery and flags to be used in sailing.

Our special correspondence from Matamoros, Mexico, gives further news from the vicinity of Queretaro to the 23d ult. No doubt, at present exists that the recent engagements resulted in an imperial defeat. The fighting was very stubborn, and the losses are admitted by Escobedo to be very heavy on both sides. The imperial chiefs had issued a proclamation offering \$10 to any soldier who would join them with his arms, and \$5 for any one who would join them without his arms. It is probably intended as a bait for deserters from the liberals. The commander of Matamoros had again requested a loan of the merchants of that city, the amount desired being \$30,000.

By the steamship *Corica* at this port, yesterday, we have news from the *Bahama*, dated at Nassau, N. P., on the 6th of April. Five French vessels of war had arrived at the harbor from Martin, viz: the *Tenace*, *Vagabond*, *Dolapine*, *Brand*, *Chagane*, *Touche*, *Collier*, *Diligence*, *Rivault*, and gunboat *Tourmente*, *Maisonne*. The men and officers were on shore daily, and their presence afforded much animation to Nassau city. It was thought the squadron would remain a month. The weather was fine at the island. The British warship *Steady* arrived at Nassau on the 6th instant. Fish continued abundant and had fallen in price.

Advices from the West Coast of Africa, dated at Sierra Leone on the 14th of February, report that the natives were giving trouble again to the English in the *Gambia*. Captain Smithwick, Lieutenant Girdner, and others, were on shore daily, and their presence afforded much animation to Nassau city. It was thought the squadron would remain a month. The weather was fine at the island. The British warship *Steady* arrived at Nassau on the 6th instant. Fish continued abundant and had fallen in price.

The contest of Stewart against Phelps for the seat in Congress as representative of the Third Maryland district has been terminated by the withdrawal of Stewart, who renounces his claims and offers to refund the expenses incurred by Phelps, who has been the occupant of the seat during the contest.

The firm of Fraser, Trenholm & Co., of Charleston, of which the late Confederate Secretary of the Treasury is a member, and Ladite, their agent at Nassau during the war, have been notified to appear before the Judiciary Committee at Washington, to give testimony relative to the business of blockade running and the assets of the firm remaining at the close of the war.

Sophie Boleslav has been sentenced to death for the murder, by poisoning, of a family at Montreal. Her counsel opposed the passing of sentence upon the plea that she was *enferme*, and a jury of matrons was appointed to investigate the matter.

The Governor of Illinois has designated the 15th inst. as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer. It is the anniversary of the death of President Lincoln.

The United States vessels *Mon-Isabella* and *Peoria* are at Hampton Roads expecting orders to sail for the West Indies. The *Dr Soto* is expected there every day.

A military commission for the trial of citizens as being held at Fort Monroe.

General Longstreet is out in another letter on the Southern situation.

A train on the Concord and Portsmouth Railroad was precipitated from the track and down an embankment of fifteen or twenty feet in height, near Canada yesterday. No one was fatally hurt, although several persons were seriously injured.

The authorities of Vernon county, Missouri, have offered \$5,000 for the arrest of the two murderers of General Baker, and half the amount for the death of each of them.

Probable War in Europe.—The Dynasties and Their Debts in Danger.

Our latest telegraphic news from Europe shows good reason for the war panic of the existence and prevalence of which we had been previously informed. The situation is sufficiently alarming. It will not surprise us if the next message should inform us that hostilities between France and Prussia have actually commenced. Pluckily as ever, Count Bismarck is fully prepared and not unwilling to stake the future of the new Germany which he has so recently called into existence, and which as yet is by no means consolidated, on the chances of a war with France. Should it come to an actual collision it is impossible to predict where or how matters will end. It is not France or Prussia, it is Europe which is in danger. Disorder, in fact, is general. At no previous period since the birth of the States system in Europe has there been such general and complete disorganization as exists at the present moment. For some generations, with the exception only of the period of the first Napoleon, a species of family compact gave at least the appearance of unity to the various European nations. That unity is no more. Disorganization is the order of the day. Not only are nations not agreed with each other, they are not agreed within themselves. Internally and externally disorder reigns. Among the various Powers *entente cordiale* there is none. Within the limits of the various States contentment what European Power of the first class can be said to be in alliance with any other of its peers? If we except Russia, what Power can be said to have peace and contentment reigning within its borders. Take England, with her Fenianism and Reform; France, with her factions and her army reconstruction schemes; Prussia, with her newly acquired but still grumbling provinces; Austria, with her various and conflicting nationalities; Italy, with her eternal Church question and changing ministries; Spain, with her stupidity and her struggling but dying Bourbonism, to make no mention of the unfortunate sick man of the East—and say which of the European States is at rest within itself. For all this disorder there is but one possible cure—the nations, one and all, must be made self-forgetful. Their thoughts must be directed outwards. Nothing can so effectually accomplish this result as war. The needed ventilation can be found through no other channel. If we may judge from the war clouds which now loom portentously on the horizon, the requisite remedy may soon be applied.

In the midst of all this disorder and confusion it is felt to be a relief to allow the mind's eye to rest on the composure and dignity of Russia and the United States. Like rocks in mid-ocean, they sit serene and lofty, unaffected by the surging billows which roll in foam and fury all around them. Busy with numerous internal improvements, Russia, with one foot on the Baltic and the other on the Black sea, looks hopefully towards Constantinople, and sees, in the not distant future, the day when she will sit in pride on the shores of the Bosphorus and when her flag will float in triumph on the waters of the Mediterranean.

The big bear which she has long been anxious to pull is ripe, very ripe. If Russia will but have patience, it will soon, we promise her, fall into her hands. The United States, on the other hand, so far from being on the verge of financial ruin and about to break in pieces from its own weight, as some of our Old World friends would fain believe, starts the world more than ever by the dash and boldness of its enterprise. Not only not contented with a territory which certainly is large—some think too large—but eager to obtain and able to utilize more, we propose to purchase from our big neighbor Russia that immense tract of territory on the North American continent which has formerly acknowledged her sway. "What will we do with it?" some eagerly ask. "Use it," we answer, "and turn it to good and profitable account." Thus the United States grows, and must grow more and more, until the entire North American continent, with all that properly appertains to it, comes under her authority. Our neighbors, however, need take no alarm. We have no intention of imitating the barbarous examples of the past by making might the test of right. We wish to hold our land by a nobler tenure. We discard all ideas of conquest. We mean to maintain and extend the great republic on a grander principle. What we want we are willing to pay for, and what we do acquire we mean to acquire by honest means and to retain on fair and honorable terms. It is fitting and proper—necessary for the times and worthy of our history—that we should read to the world some such noble lesson.

There is one reflection which is irresistible from this view of the political affairs of the Old World and the New: security and confidence are certain to gravitate westward. The old dynasties are doomed, and the day is not far distant when their debts must be repudiated. A revolution similar to that which swept over France in 1789 threatens at an early day to devastate the entire European continent, the adjacent islands of Great Britain, and Ireland not excepted.

Incendiarism.—Duty of the Fire Commissioners.

It may not be generally known, but it is nevertheless a fact that about thirty per cent of the fires in the city of New York is the work of incendiaries. This is a fearful state of things, and we are forced to ask, Where shall we find a remedy? The courts can do a great deal, and we are glad to see that one of our Judges is taking the right course to that end. Recorder Hackett on Thursday last sentenced Gargano S. Castagneto, who was found guilty of arson in the first degree, to hard labor in the State Prison for the term of his natural life, and intimated that the proper penalty for such a heinous crime was hanging. We hope the other Judges will follow the excellent example of Recorder Hackett whenever such cases come before them. But there is a general complaint from the public—and we think the complaints are amply justified—that the causes of the recent fires in many of the theatres have not been properly investigated. In several instances a special Providence, as it were, protected thousands of people from a fearful death, and yet we have not been furnished with any satisfactory information as to the origin of the conflagrations. The Fire Commissioners appear to be behind-hand in the performance of their duty in this matter. They ought to insist upon a vigilant fire patrol being maintained in all public places

of amusement, both by day and night, as is done in the theatres of Europe. The recent fires which have demolished so many of our theatres fortunately occurred at hours when the houses were not crowded by large audiences; but this was the result of chance. We have no guarantee that similar accidents may not happen during the performance on any night, under which circumstances the consequences would be horrible to contemplate. The Legislature should take care before its adjournment to pass a law for the protection of life in theatres—a law so stringent in its provisions that managers would be compelled, under severe penalties, to keep a regular fire patrol always on hand and to ensure facilities for a rapid and convenient egress in cases of fire or panic. Unless this is done and the Fire Commissioners pay special attention to the theatres, recent experience convinces us that it is no longer safe to visit these establishments as they are at present constructed and managed.

State Rights.—A Chance for Queen Victoria. Queen Isabella, Napoleon the Third and Maximilian.

It is a remarkable fact that the Southern theory of State rights has never by any of the learned lawyers concerned been pushed to its logical solution. In the memorial of W. L. Sharkey and Robert J. Walker, in the name of the State of Mississippi, for an injunction from the Supreme Court of the United States against the execution of the reconstruction laws of Congress, and in a similar complaint from Jeremiah S. Black, in behalf of the State of Georgia, that beautiful line of argument is, though somewhat disguised, really preserved. First, that the several States came into the Union and subscribed to the federal constitution with the right reserved of going out at their discretion respectively; secondly, that in their late hostile coalition and war against the Union the rebel States only exercised this reserved right as free and sovereign copartners; thirdly, that when their rebel armies were subjugated by the armies of the Union the rebel States, in submitting to the Union, were restored to their rights as they stood before the war; and fourthly, that the constitution is violated in holding the rebel States as subordinate to the Union.